



Deductive Reasoning

Teaching Rubric

Deduction is the process of using generalizations and principles to infer unstated conclusions about specific information or situations.

A. *Identifies the specific situation that is being considered or studied.*

Rubric not appropriate.

B. *Identifies the generalizations or principles that apply to the specific situation.*

4. Identifies important generalizations or principles that apply to the situation and that reflect a thorough understanding of the situation.
3. Identifies important generalizations or principles that apply to the situation.
2. Identifies important generalizations or principles that apply to the situation, but identifies others that reflect misconceptions about or a limited understanding of the situation.
1. Identifies important generalizations or principles that reflect a lack of understanding of the situation.

C. *Identifies the specific situation that is being considered or studied.*

4. Thoroughly identifies the conditions that have to be in place. The identified conditions reflect an in-depth understanding of the generalizations or principles.
3. Identifies the conditions that have to be in place.
2. Identifies only some of the conditions that have to be in place. Some of the identified conditions reflect misconceptions about or a limited understanding of the generalizations or principles.
1. Identifies conditions that reflect a lack of understanding of the generalizations or principles.

D. *Explains whether the specific situation meets the conditions that have to be in place for the generalizations or principles to apply.*

4. Thoroughly explains whether the specific situation meets the conditions in a way that reflects an in-depth understanding of the situation.
3. Explains whether the specifics meet the conditions.
2. Explains whether the specifics meet the conditions in a way that reflects misconceptions about or a limited understanding of the situation.
1. Explains whether the specifics meet the conditions in a way that reflects serious misconceptions about or a lack of understanding of the situation; or considers, in a cursory manner, whether the specific situation meets the conditions.

E. *If the generalizations or principles apply, draws conclusions or makes predictions.*

4. Draws conclusions or makes predictions that are accurate and logical and that reflect a thorough understanding of how the generalizations or principles apply to the situation. Recognizes subtle as well as obvious ways in which they generalizations or principles apply.
3. Draws conclusions or makes predictions that are accurate and logical and that reflect an understanding of how the generalizations or principles apply to the situation.
2. Draws conclusions or makes predictions that are not completely accurate and logical and that reflect misconceptions about or a limited understanding of how the generalizations or principles apply to the situation.
1. Draws conclusions or makes predictions that are inaccurate and illogical and that reflect serious misconceptions about or a lack of understanding of how the generalizations or principles apply to the situation.

Adapted from McREL Institute